

**From:** amy@envy.cs.umass.edu@inetgw  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 12/9/01 11:29pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement.

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Renata B. Hesse  
Antitrust Division  
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To whom it may concern:

I am writing to you because I am concerned about the proposed settlement of the Microsoft anti-trust case. Although Microsoft has been found to be acting as a monopoly, the proposed settlement does not adequately open the market nor does it punish Microsoft in a manner that will change their behavior.

Because of their currently dominant status in the market, any competitor to Microsoft, either from another commercial company or from the open source software movement, needs to be able to create software which can inter-operate with Microsoft. This means that Microsoft needs to be forced to freely release its file formats and communications standards as well as to allow software such as Sun's Java to run under Microsoft's operating system. These standards need to be released in advance of each new Microsoft product so that their competitors have time to upgrade their products as well.

I am also concerned that the punishment being levied at Microsoft is too lenient. Paying their fine by donating computers and software does not cost them very much and only serves to broaden their future market base. Instead of punishing them, it may serve as a long term gain. Instead, require them to pay the government in cash and then the government can use the money for education. This way their money will train a new generation of computer scientists who can create better software for everyone.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Amy McGovern